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Serial: PE&RAS-01-083

SEP 25 2001

September 19, 2001

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Ms. Carol Hanlon  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office (M/S #025)  
P.O. Box 30307, North Las Vegas, Nevada  
89036-0307

**SUBJECT:** Comments on the Possible Site Recommendation for Yucca Mountain

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

CP&L and Florida Power, subsidiaries of Progress Energy, are pleased to submit these comments to the Department of Energy (DOE) on the Possible Site Recommendation for Yucca Mountain (66 Fed. Reg. 43,851 – August 21, 2001 and 66 Fed. Reg. 45,845 – August 30, 2001).

We support a decision to recommend Yucca Mountain for development as a repository for commercial used nuclear fuel and radioactive defense waste. The scientific and engineering information contained in the Department's *Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE)* and the underlying reports upon which it is based, constitutes a technically and legally sound basis for concluding that a repository at Yucca Mountain can protect public and worker health and safety in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) radiation protection standard (40 CFR 197).

A recommendation for Yucca Mountain, based upon the extensive information that has been gathered, is an important step in an environmentally responsible energy policy. It is extremely important that leaders take action today to protect the environment for future generations. In that regard, the Secretary of Energy and the President should recommend that Yucca Mountain be developed as a repository.

Sincerely,

c: R. J. McCullum, Nuclear Energy Institute

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